

Message Text

SECRET

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62

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 301728Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9764

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MADRID

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

S E C R E T BONN 07015

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE ALSO PASS USNMR SHAPE AND USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, SP, GW

SUBJECT: SPAIN AND NATO

REF: BONN 6736

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER ON
APRIL 29, I MENTIONED OUR INTEREST IN A FORM OF ASSOCIA-
TION BETWEEN SPAIN AND NATO, RECALLING THAT WE HAD RAISED
THIS ISSUE WITH THE FOREIGN OFFICE LAST WEEK (REFTEL) AND

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HAD ASKED FOR FRG REACTIONS TO A NUMBER OF CONCRETE

POSSIBILITIES. I NOTED THAT THIS WAS AN OLD ISSUE BUT ONE WHICH ASSUMED A SPECIAL IMPORTANCE NOW BECAUSE OF THE ROLE IT INEVITABLY PLAYED IN OUR CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS WITH SPAIN ON U.S. BASES.

2. GENSCHER, WHO INDICATED THAT HE HAD SEEN A REPORT OF OUR APRIL 24 DEMARCHE, EMPHASIZED HIS OWN SUPPORT FOR A CLOSER ASSOCIATION OF SPAIN WITH NATO. AN OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO OUR INITIATIVE, HOWEVER, COULD NOT YET BE MADE. HE OBSERVED THAT WHAT THE SPANISH WANTED WAS NOT MEMBERSHIP BUT AN AGREEMENT WITH NATO WHICH WOULD PARALLEL AND COMPLEMENT THE ONE WITH THE U.S.

3. GENSCHER SAID HE WANTED TO TELL US FRANKLY WHAT HE HAD ONLY HINTED AT IN HIS PUBLIC STATEMENTS ABOUT HIS RECENT VISIT TO SPAIN, NAMELY, THAT HE HAD TOLD HIS SPANISH HOSTS IN BLUNT TERMS THAT THEY SHOULD BEGIN RIGHT NOW TO LEARN FROM THE DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL, DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO NURTURE A DEMOCRATIC DEVELOPMENT AND TO PREVENT THE FORMATION OF A STRONG UNDEMOCRATIC LEFT. HE THOUGHT THAT THIS MESSAGE HAD BEEN WELL UNDERSTOOD BY A NUMBER OF HIS INTERLOCUTORS WHO, HE MAINTAINED, WERE NOT NEARLY AS MONOLITHIC OR AS UNIFORMLY FALANGIST IN THEIR OUTLOOK AS THEIR (NORTHERN EUROPEAN) DETRACTORS THOUGHT. THE IMPRESSION GENSCHER GOT WHILE IN SPAIN WAS THAT THERE ARE MANY INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE WHOSE UNDERSTANDABLE RIGIDITY IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND OFFICIAL CONVERSATIONS IS OFFSET BY A REMARKABLE DEGREE OF FRANKNESS ON PRIVATE AND UNOFFICIAL OCCASIONS.
HILLENBRAND

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

SECRET

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